The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918. Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Samuel Gompers said:
American workers insist that it is an essential application of democratic principles that they work out their own problems in their own way.

WHOLE NO. 2039 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1950 | GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 40, NO. 19

Union Show Held Symbol Of U.S. Democratic Ideals

Green Says Exhibition Fulfills Gompers' Dreams

Philadelphia.—The greatest "Buy Union" show on earth rocked this Cradle of American Liberty with a new enthusiastic appreciation of what it means to be a free American workman.

For 8 action-packed days, the 5th AFL Union Industries Show rekindled the spirit and made glow anew the ideals of Billy Penn, the Philadelphia founder who refused to take off his hat to a king; Ben Franklin, who helped win independence and write the Constitution, and Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor, who made these principles apply to the nation's economic life.

And the 1950 AFL leaders, the men who staged the show, pledged that the display would stand as one more symbol that American democracy lives.

"The 8,000,000 members of the AFL are determined that our free enterprise system shall survive in America and that freedom and democracy shall not be obliterated by aggression in other nations of the earth," said AFL President William Green formally opening the show in gigantic Convention Hall.

"It is appropriate," Mr. Green said, "that this greatest of all Union Industries Show should be held during the Gompers Centennial Year because the founder of the AFL was a lifelong crusader for freedom and democracy and an inveterate enemy of all forms of compulsion and totalitarianism.

"Gompers believed in the American way—teamwork between unions and management. It pays dividends. Class warfare is the Communist way—and it takes a heavy toll of human life and suffering and oppression.

"This Union Industries Show of 1950 here in Philadelphia provides democracy's most effective answer to the challenge of Communism.

"The great story graphically told by this exposition is that free labor and free management, working cooperatively together, can produce industrial miracles for the benefit of all the people."

Mr. Green urged consumers to look for the union label before making purchases and the union shop card and button before hiring services.

"The union label," he said, "means that a product is made in America by union workers, under decent union standards, and under clean and sanitary conditions. It is the torch of progress which organized labor holds aloft in its march toward the achievement of a better life for the American people."

AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of the Union Label Trades Department and show director, said:

"The principal purpose of this all-American exhibition is to stimulate the purchase of everything that is union. Good relations is a definite result of our Union Industries Show.

"This show is a graphic symbol of America's social progress, economic security and industrial prosperity."

Mayor Bernard Samuel of Philadelphia welcomed the AFL to Philadelphia.

Other remarks congratulating the AFL leadership on the exhibit were made by Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright and General Vandaman of the U. S. Air Force.

Mr. Green, Mayor Samuel and Joseph McDonough, secretary-treasurer of the Philadelphia Trades and Labor Council, participated in cutting the ribbon which officially opened the show.

Exhibits of more than 100 unions and 2,000 employers lined one and one-half miles of space.

Free samples of foods and other products, valuable souvenirs and literature were distributed from the booths up and down the aisles. Prizes were awarded daily.

Name bands and guest artists furnished musical entertainment throughout the day. Demonstrations, exhibits to test the speculator's skill, and other interesting attractions filled every busy minute.

Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin visited the show the third day, and Bob Hope and his troupe from Hollywood were scheduled for a fourth-day appearance and to meet the AFL Executive Council.

Frank Edwards, AFL news commentator, broadcasted nightly from the show.

PRESENT STATUE

Philadelphia.—A plaster Statue of Liberty was presented to French Consul Blondeau as part of the Union Industries Show opening ceremonies by Edmond Venzie, president of the Contracting Plasterers International Association, and John Rooney, president of the AFL Operative Plasterers and Cement Finishers International Union.

"France gave us the Statue of Liberty which is a symbol of liberty in a world of sorrow," Mr. Venzie said. "It is the hope of the entire plastering industry in America that this handcast plaster statue will bring some ray of joy and hope to the people of France."

WIN TEXTILE PLANT

Andalusia, Pa.—The AFL United Textile Workers won bargaining rights for the Margold Ribbon Mills, Inc., by a 2-1 vote in a National Labor Relations Board election.

Open 'Buy Union' Show



Philadelphia.—The 5th AFL Union Industries Show is formally opened with the cutting of the ribbon. Participants include AFL President William Green, Mayor Bernard Samuel of Philadelphia, AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, show director; Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, AFL Vice Presidents Harry C. Bates and Herman Winter.

Senate Whittles Down Security; Kills Disability

Washington.—The Senate Finance Committee has whittled down the social security bill passed by the House and kills the provision for disability insurance.

This analysis of the bill reported to the Senate—with blaring headlines across the country about how social security was going to be improved—was made by Nelson Cruikshank, AFL director of social insurance activities.

"Don't be taken in too easily by the headlines," Mr. Cruikshank advised. He and AFL staffers went to work to get a more liberalized bill closer to objectives desired by the AFL passed by the full Senate.

The 90 percent increase in benefits—so widely advertised by the Senate committee—is an average and applies only to those now on the benefit rolls. It means that the average $26 per month now being paid to a single retired worker will be increased to $49 a month.

"In the opinion of the AFL this is still too low," Mr. Cruikshank said. "For those who will retire in the future the Senate committee did not do as well as the House had done."

The Senate lowered the wage for computing retirement benefits from the House-approved $3,600 to $3,000.

"This is what the life insurance companies have been wanting," Mr. Cruikshank said.

He said there are some good points in the bill giving the dependents of women workers equal footing as those of male workers and making it easier for an older person to establish eligibility for benefits.

Building Trades Wages Up Slightly

Washington.—Union wage scales of workers in the construction trades advanced three-tenths of 1 percent during the first quarter of 1950, as compared with the two-tenths of 1 percent rise reported in the previous quarter and in the first 3 months of 1949.

A recent survey by the U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics covering 7 major crafts in 85 cities showed that higher pay scales were reported for about 6 percent of the 525,000 workers included in the study. Most of the increases were for 10 or 12½ cents an hour.

Between April 1, 1949, and April 3, 1950, union wage scales in building trades advanced about 3 percent, compared with a 9 percent increase for the April to April change between 1948 and 1949.

The Bureau's estimate of the average hourly scale of all union workers in building construction was $2.22 on April 3, 1950. Since June 1939, union hourly scales have advanced approximately 73 percent.

Pity The Poor Boss!

Records filed with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission show that Eastman Kodak Co. in 1949 paid its executives and directors $1,246,262 in salaries and bonuses.

The company's four top officers received $504,724 salaries.

Eastman President Thomas J. Hargrave, who is also a director, received $170,000 salary; $21,011 bonus. The company contributed $22,151 to his retirement fund.

Eastman Kodak paid $144,032 to the company retirement fund for all its executives.

Truman Picks Walsh For Unesco Parley

Washington. — President Truman appointed President Richard F. Walsh of the AFL International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employes a member of the United States delegation to the 5th general conference of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization to be held in Florence, Italy, May 22 to June 16.

Mr. Walsh was nominated for the post by AFL President William Green in a letter to Secretary of State Dean Acheson. Mr. Green said:

"We feel that it is particularly appropriate that an organization representing 8,000,000 American wage earners participate in every way possible in the activities and plans of



RICHARD F. WALSH
President International Alliance of Theatrical State Employes.

an international organization which is established to create and maintain understanding and mutual respect among peoples through the channels of education, science and culture. We believe this is especially true with respect to the American Federation of Labor, since among our affiliated organizations are all of those unions whose memberships embrace the workers in these fields.

"There are now some 238,000 people employed in the motion picture industry in America. Almost all of these are in unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The membership of these unions includes all phases of production and design as well as acting and writing.

"While Mr. Walsh's own organization does not itself cover all these varied activities, he has been for so long associated with the industry and is so thoroughly acquainted with its many aspects that it would hardly be possible to find a person more representative of this tremendously effective medium of communication. In addition to the presidency of his own organization, which he has filled with distinction, he has served as fraternal delegate from the American Federation of Labor to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. He is a director of the American National Theater and Academy, and has been for several years an officer of the American Theater Wing.

"Mr. Walsh's experiences during the past several years with the aspects of his industry which have so direct a bearing on international relations are such as to make him preeminently qualified to serve as an advisor to the United States delegation as the UNESCO General Conference contemplates programs employing the medium of motion pictures and the theater.

"He is well acquainted with the subtleties of Communist techniques in attempting to infiltrate this important medium."

Tobin Urges T-H Repeal to Ward Off Depression

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—Unless the Taft-Hartley Act is repealed by a new Congress, it will lead to an economic collapse worse than the depression of the early '30s, Maurice Tobin, Secretary of Labor, told the Cook County Branch of Labor's League for Political Education.

Secretary Tobin addressed more than 300 delegates from Chicago AFL locals at a meeting in the Hotel and Restaurant Workers hall, presided over by Joseph D. Keenan, LLPE director and chairman of the Cook County branch.

The Secretary of Labor spoke following conclusion of the regular order of busines. He told the meeting he was impressed by a report of George Brody, chairman of the registration committee, who told of progress in classifying more than 200,000 Chicago union members.

"I'm delighted to hear the gentleman in the back of the room (Brody) who predicted 99 percent of eligible union men will be registered to vote in the November election," said Secretary Tobin. "If you could register 95 percent, you would be doing an excellent job."

Secretary Tobin recalled a check made in Newark, N. J., early in 1948 found only 30 percent of Newark labor registered to vote in the presidential election of that year, although labor leaders prior to the survey had believed the labor registration was high.

"It's unfortunate this type of organization was not set up before 1948," said Secretary Tobin. "I am confident that 1950 will reverse the trend of past off-year congressional elections in which reactionary spokesmen won seats in Congress through failure of the working people to register and vote."

That the United States has so far avoided an economic collapse such as followed the Civil War and World I is due largely to the power and strength of organized labor, Mr. Tobin said, a power and strength that is threatened by the Taft-Hartley Act.

"If allowed to stand, the Taft-Hartley Act and its procedures for injunctive action and harassment of unions would weaken the entire labor movement," he said.

Another speaker at the meeting was Barnet Hodes, executive secretary of the Chicago Host Committee, which arranged a Jefferson Jubilee May 13-15, during which President Truman and all his cabinet except the Secretary of State were to appear.

Mr. Hodes invited all the LLPE delegates to come to the jubilee with the membership of their unions. He credited the help of Chicago labor in the 1948 campaign with swinging the presidential election to Harry S. Truman.

"We all know what you did in Chicago in the October meeting," he said, referring to a big parade and Chicago Stadium rally. "Chicago took heart. America took heart. And Truman is back in the White House."

Buy Gompers stamps!

ASK AFL HELP

Washington.—The AFL Government Employes Council has asked President William Green to request all city central unions and state federations of labor to support legislation which would nullify orders of the Post Office Department that would curtail essential postal service and use mail handlers on work requiring training and skill.

AFL Calls On CIO To Work For Organic Labor Unity

AFL Offers Unity On Secure Basis

Philadelphia.—Text of letter from President William Green of the American Federation of Labor to President Philip Murray of the CIO:

As indicated in my response of April 10th, your letter of April 4th was referred to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor for attention of our meeting now being held in Philadelphia, Pa.

Our Executive Council gave most thorough consideration to your proposal for unity of action among the several groups of organized labor to whom you addressed yourself.

We regret the absence of a conference prior to the issuance of your invitation and proposal. Our Executive Council doubts seriously that the method and procedure suggested and proposed in your letter would accomplish the mutually desired objective, viz., organic unity in the labor forces of America.

We find ourselves in complete accord with the necessity of unity in all fields of organized labor's activities and would direct attention to the several appeals previously addressed to your organization in the past number of years for unity not merely upon a tentative and cooperative basis, but upon a permanent and organic basis. Our Executive Council would direct your further attention to the unanimous decision of our most recent convention urging the necessity and furtherance of unity in the forces of organized labor in spirit as in substance, not merely on a conference level, but upon a permanent and organic basis.

In view of these decisions and in accord with the mood and temper of your letter, the Executive Council has, by unanimous decision, authorized and directed me to advise you and your organization that we are prepared to select a committee to meet a like committee of the CIO to engage in conference looking toward an early and successful realization of unity upon a permanent and secure basis between our respective organizations.

We, therefore, await your early and we trust, favorable consideration regarding the foregoing proposal for unity of organized labor as represented by our respective organizations and which we feel confident if realized, will lead to organic unity of all forces and groupings of organized labor in America.

Honor Ornburn; Re-Elect Mrs. Lowe

Philadelphia.—A tribute was paid to the memory of I. M. "Dick" Ornburn, founder and director of the AFL Union Industries Show, at a special memorial service conducted by the American Federation of Women's Labor Auxiliaries in biennial convention.

AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of the Union Label Trades Department, who succeeded the late Mr. Ornburn as show director, led in giving homage. Mr. Woll praised Mr. Ornburn for his vision, leadership and courage in a continuing educational campaign to make America union-label conscious and aware of the great contributions of organized labor to United States prosperity.

Mr. Ornburn died last December, with details almost completed for the greatest Union Industries Show in history.

Mrs. Herman H. Lowe, Nashville, Tenn., president of the women's auxiliaries since 1942, was reelected to that position.

WIN WELFARE FUND

Washington.—AFL Carpenters negotiated a 2-year agreement with Washington area employers to provide 5,000 union carpenters with medical and hospital benefits, the ninth local craft to negotiate such a contract. Employers will contribute 6 cents an hour for each employe, an estimated $100,000 a year.

AFL supports Cancer Fund.

North Dakota Plans Gompers Program

Minot, N. Dak.—The North Dakota State Federation of Labor convention, to be held here Sunday, Sept. 3, and Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4, will honor Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor.

A feature of the two-day meeting will be the dedication of the $100,000 labor temple of the Minot Central Labor Union.

The Minot CLU has begun the selection of committees and arranging details for the convention.

Heads University



Seattle, Wash.—Dave Beck, 54, executive vice president of the AFL Brotherhood of Teamsters, was elected president of the University of Washington board of regents. Not a college graduate himself, Mr. Beck has a long record of outstanding contributions to the cause of higher education.

Air Force Exhibits at Show



Philadelphia.—The Air Force exhibit provided one of the most interesting parts of the U. S. Department of Defense display at the 5th AFL Union Industries Show. Top, spectators inspect the interior of North American B-45 "Tornado" jet bomber through special plexi-glass windows. Bottom, Lt. Marvin Lewis looks on as S/Sgt. Thomas Zurschmeide of the U. S. Air Force exhibit unit from Wright-Patterson Base, Dayton, O., checks operation of landing gear on full-scale model of B-36 intercontinental bomber.

Textile Workers Gain in South

Atlanta, Ga.—Preliminary check of membership of the AFL United Textile Workers of America in the south reveals a healthy increase in both membership and the number of new local unions.

"Our membership in the south, and the number of local unions is at an all-time high within recent years," stated Joseph Jacobs, UTAW-AFL director. "The CIO Textile Union—as their officials have said in newspaper reports—may be losing members and have fewer than they had in 1947, but our organization has shown a healthy growth in spite of the Taft-Hartley law and any other obstacles."

The South will have more delegates to the UTWA-AFL convention beginning June 19 in New York City than in 1948, and three times the number representing the south in the 1941 convention.

Buy Gompers stamps!

ITALIAN UNIONS MERGE

Rome.—James D. Zellerbach, chief of the ECA's special mission to Italy, hailed the growing strength of the non-Communist, free Italian labor movement as a development which is "essential to Italian reconstruction." He issued the statement following the decision of the Italian Federation of Labor (FIL) to merge with the Free Confederation of Labor (LCGIL).

Executive Council Asks Committees Start Immediately

Philadelphia.—The American Federation of Labor called upon the Congress of Industrial Organizations to work out a permanent merger of the two organizations and offered to start immediately.

The AFL Executive Council proposed that this be accomplished through negotiations by committees of the AFL and CIO.

"We are prepared to select a committee to meet a like committee of the CIO to engage in conference looking toward an early and successful realization of unity upon a permanent and secure basis between our respective organizations," AFL President William Green said in the council's answer to CIO President Philip Murray.

Mr. Murray had proposed on April 4 that organized labor set up a top policy group for "functional unity." He sent the proposal not only to the AFL but to Independent Operating Railroad Brotherhoods, Railway Labor Executives Association, United Mine Workers and International Association of Machinists.

Mr. Green pointed out at a news conference that by including so large a group there might be considerable delay in effecting an organic relationship. So, as in the past, the AFL stressed the importance of achieving organic unity first between the AFL and CIO.

The Executive Council said that if the AFL and CIO can work out a permanent and secure basis of merger it "will lead to organic unity of all forces and groupings of organized labor in America."

Mr. Green reminded Mr. Murray that the AFL has made several appeals previously for permanent and secure merger. He said the AFL is "in complete accord with the necessity of unity in all fields of organized labor's activities."

He said that, under the AFL plan, instead of two organizations fighting each other, there would be one big organization, conserving our financial resources and strength, not raiding each other, and rendering top service to rank and file workers, organized and unorganized.

The question of labor unity was the first big issue taken up by the Executive Council at its spring meeting. Still on the agenda were legislative, political and organizational matters.

The council met here in connection with the mammoth AFL Union Industries Show and the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor.

In other developments:

1. The Executive Council endorsed the strike by members of the AFL Commercial Telegraphers Union against the United Press and offered full support.

2. Mr. Green told reporters that the Supreme Court decision upholding non-communist affidavits of the Taft-Hartley law vindicated the AFL decision to sign the oath while working for repeal of the act.

"Our acceptance of the affidavit has been vindicated," Mr. Green told a news conference. "We regard it as one of the objectionable features of the law. But to advance the interest of our people we felt it our duty to sign right from the beginning. And we did so."

Repeal of the law remains the AFL's No. 1 legislative objective.

Harrison Argues For Union Shop

Washington.—AFL Vice-President George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, urged a senate subcommittee to report favorably a bill to permit the union shop and checkoff of union dues on the nation's railroads.

The Railway Labor Act of 1926, as amended in 1934, bans the union shop and checkoff on the railroads, although they are permitted under certain conditions in other industries by the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947.

Mr. Harrison argued that the changes in the law, embodied in a bill that is supported by 21 standard railway labor organizations, would reduce labor disputes. These unions are affiliated with the Railway Labor Executives Association.

Sen. Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri, asked whether the 21 unions had taken referendum votes on the question of amending the railway act. Mr. Harrison replied that since 1934 all the unions had gone on record in favor of the proposed change.

The bill for which Mr. Harrison spoke would permit unions and managements to make agreements requiring, as a condition of employment, all employes to become members within 60 days of their employment.

Mr. Harrison told the committee: "We are out to bring the free riders and the 'No, Bills' into the union."

AFLERS APPOINTED

Boston, Mass.—Philip Salem, Lawrence, Mass., international vice president, and John Vertente, New Bedford, Mass., international representative of the AFL United Textile Workers have been appointed members of the 9-man committee investigating the textile industry in Massachusetts.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

Samuel Gompers said:
The labor movement voices the aspirations of the toiling masses as well as lays bare their wrongs.

WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

Ask Union Voice In Europe Steel Plan; Stronger Germany

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council demanded that German and other European trade unions be granted a voice in the over-all European coal-steel industry pool now under consideration by Secretary of State Dean Acheson and the foreign ministers of France and Great Britain.

It demanded a general strengthening of democratic Germany to bring about a decisive defeat of all Communist attempts to take over Western Germany for use as a springboard to domination of the rest of the continent.

In other foreign policy actions, the council urged the foreign ministers now meeting in London to take steps toward a southeastern Asia defense pact similar to the Atlantic Treaty and approved granting economic aid to Marshal Tito's regime in Yugoslavia.

Following is the text of the statement on "The Crisis in Europe—Program for Germany:"

The paramount prerequisite for the preservation of peace in Europe is the decisive defeat of all Communist attempts to take over Western Germany and thus to extend Soviet domination to a point from which Russian despotism could seize France, Belgium, Holland and the rest of the continent.

In this connection, it is first of all necessary for our country and its democratic associates to drop all policies towards Germany which reflect a conscious attempt to fight World War II all over again. Today, the security of western Europe and the peace and progress of the world are not threatened by German aggression but by 175 mobilized Russian divisions supported by tremendous airpower and an enormous labor force ruthlessly exploited by a totalitarian regime frantically bent on world conquest.

Soviet imperialism is pushing with redoubled energy its plans to take over all of Germany. It is maneuvering to seize Berlin through intermittent "baby blockades," terrorist demonstrations, and armed invasion. Moscow has launched an intense propaganda campaign appealing especially to all anti-democratic elements—former Nazi bigwigs, ex-army officers, and those coal magnates and steel barons of the Ruhr who financed Hitler's rise to power and his war program. Before these enemies of human freedom and decency, the Russian war lords are now dangling glittering promises of socalled national unity and enticing economic outlets for the products of German heavy industry.

In view of this sinister turn of affairs, we propose that the democratic nations revise their policies in Germany, bring them up to date, and correct those proved by experience to be no longer justifiable background. In proposing a fundamental revision of policy towards western Germany, we do not forget or minimize such significant achievements as the progress of economic reconstruction, the great growth of the free trade union movement, and the establishment of the German Federal Republic.

Furthermore, we commend highly the initiative of United States High Commissioner John J. McCloy in lifting the suspension of the codetermination laws in Hesse and Wuerttemberg-Baden and in blocking the reactionary civil service and tax programs. But much still remains to be done before democracy in Germany will be secure.

In this sense, Allied policy in Germany should be shifted to strengthen the democratic elements—especially labor—and to put an end to the recent dangerous manifestations of Chauvinism, anti-Semitism, Nazism, totalitarian methods of government.

The interests of European democracy and security will be served far better by such a shift of policy by removing the conditions giving rise to these evils, than by now and then subordinating the Bonn Constitution to the veto powers of the Allied High Commission in order to correct costly mistakes. Besides, the latter method of dealing with bad consequences instead of removing the causes thereof seriously weakens the development of a healthy independent democratic authority in Germany.

In view of the profound international crisis and the urgency of consolidating the gains and strengthening the base of democracy in Germany so as to enable it to make its important contributions towards the preservation of freedom and peace, we propose that our government consider favorably the following line of action:

1. All dismantling operations should cease. All crippling restrictions on economic activities like steel production and shipbuilding should be lifted. Such a policy is all the more imperative in view of the serious unemployment problem in western Germany.

2. Until such time as the German people themselves take over full responsibility and power, Control Commission Law No. 75 should continue in force unrevised. Germany trade unions should be accorded representation on the coal board of trustees, just as they have been accorded such rights on the board of trustees governing the steel industry. Despite its defects, the operation of this law has kept in check the former giant industrial and financial magnates who brought the Nazis into power and financed Hitler's terror and war machines. This law should not be revised in any manner which will undermine or undo the real good it has achieved. Such revision would be dangerous to the freedom and security not only of the German people but of other European nations as well.

3. The Ruhr statute must be basically revised so as to eliminate its unilateral character. The standard of living of the German people should depend on the extent of their own efforts and contributions and not on the restrictive decisions or generous gifts and subsidies of other powers. Moreover, the Ruhr Authority must be officially and categorically proclaimed as only the first phase of the establishment of a General European Authority empowered to exercise similar control over the coal, iron and steel industries of northwest Europe. In accordance with the proposals of the International Trade Union Committee for the Ruhr, adequate trade union representation must be assured in the administration of the Ruhr statute and in all other similar authorities to be set up.

4. German economy should be integrated into west European economic life within the framework of the O.E.E.C. or other international bodies based on the principles of mutuality.

5. The present overlapping of security agencies in Germany should be eliminated and replaced by one body whose functions shall be limited to the field of security.

6. By agreement with the German Federal Republic, France should be assured access to all the Saar coal she needs. As the traditional mainstay of democracy in Europe, France need not and should not resort to organizing an undemocratic regime in the Saar for the purpose of obtaining this fuel.

7. The German Federal Republic should be recognized as a sovereign state and be fully drawn into the community of free nations—sharing in all the responsibilities and duties as well as enjoying the rights and benefits of such an association. There is no other way of developing among the German people a feeling of firm solidarity with the western democracies and ensuring their categoric rejection of all Russian maneuvers and schemes to make their country a socalled neutral or merely another satellite of Soviet despotism.

8. The present Occupation Statute should be replaced by a provisional treaty of peace.

9. Western Berlin should be incorporated into the German Federal Republic.

10. The armed forces of the United States and its associated democratic powers are, in accordance with the provisions of the above treaty agreed to by both parties, to remain in Germany to aid in its defense against Russian aggression and Communist quisling encroachments on its sovereignty.

IT WAS AFL WEEK

Philadelphia.—May 6-15 was American Federation of Labor Week in Philadelphia by official proclamation of Mayor Bernard Samuel in recog-5th AFL Union Show.

Union Label Chiefs Visit Show

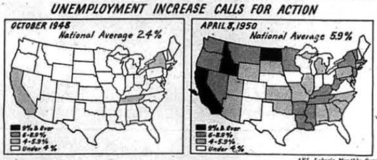


Philadelphia.—Ready to enter Convention Hall where the greatest of all Union Industries Show had just opened are the men who planned the exhibition, all members of the Union Label Trades Department executive board. L. to r., President John J. Mara, Boot and Shoe Workers; President James M. Duffy, National Brotherhood of Operative Potters; President Joseph P. McCurdy, United Garment Workers; AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of the Union Label department and show director; AFL Vice President Herman Winter, president emeritus Bakery and Confectionery Workers.

BENTON BACKED FEPC

Washington.—Senator William Benton of Connecticut supported enactment of a Fair Employment Practices Commission law by the Senate. He joined with Senator Herbert H. Lehman of New York in urging adoption of President Truman's entire civil rights program.

UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASE CALLS FOR ACTION



AFL Labor's Monthly Survey

60 Million Job Goal Outdated, AFL Says

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council called the once "dream" goal of 60,000,000 jobs for Americans "out-of-date."

It said business and government must get to work to keep employment constantly above that figure.

Labor unions, the council said, can do their part by insisting upon and winning new general wage increases to boost consumer purchasing power as an aid to high-employment prosperity. Corporation profits for the first quarter of 1950 show that business can grant substantial wage increases now.

Following is the text of the Executive Council statement on unemployment:

It would be dangerous to place too much emphasis upon the recent release of the Census Bureau indicating that unemployment dropped sharply between March and April of this year.

According to the census estimates, the number of unemployed workers in April totaled 3,500,000, a drop of 600,000 since the previous month and almost 1,200,000 below the February high. At the same time, total employment for April was about 1,100,000 higher than the March level.

Although this represents a hopeful development, it does not mean that this country no longer faces an unemployment problem. What is important is not merely the month-to-month changes but also the trends over a longer period of time. One or two months' report alone cannot provide the basis for eliminating the problem of unemployment.

A thorough analysis of economic developments affecting unemployment during the past year brings out the following points:

1. An increase in jobs and a decline in unemployment is expected during the spring season. Employment normally expands in construction and retail trade. In addition, for this year, more than 100,000 temporary enumerators for the 1950 census were hired by the federal government between March and April.

2. Even with the improved situation in April, there was more unemployment in April, 1950, than in any April since 1941.

3. An alarming proportion of the unemployed have been out of work for a considerable period of time. Approximately one out of every three employed persons had been out of work for 4 months or longer. Last year, this proportion was only one out of five.

4. Although unemployment is more serious in certain areas of the country than others (particularly New England, Middle Atlantic and the West), it cannot be considered purely a local problem. Every type of community has been affected.

5. All types of workers, young and old, skilled and unskilled, have been affected. Available evidence indicates that older skilled workers have been particularly hard hit.

6. One of the chief reasons for the increasing unemployment has been a substantial increase in productivity. The record expenditures by American business for new machinery and equipment in the postwar period have been reflected in a higher output per worker. Unless the market for the goods produced by the nation's factories is expanded, this will continue to mean fewer workers on the job.

7. At the present time, the government's unbalanced budget made necessary by the Marshall Plan and heavy defense expenditures is helping to keep down unemployment.

The problems raised by this analysis cannot be solved overnight. They are not problems of "postwar adjustment." Only in a very few cases (low-priced automobiles and housing, for example) does there remain any of the wartime shortages.

Today's problem is to develop an effectively functioning high-employment economy. We must not be satisfied with an economy which does not bring prosperity to all segments of our population. Although it is obvious that some unemployment will always exist, our goal must be to achieve an economy in which no qualified worker losing his job will have to endure a long waiting period before finding another.

It is not enough for us to prevent employment from falling. Rather, our economy must continually expand so that it can absorb the many workers who each year are entering the labor market for the first time.

The much-discussed goal of 60,000,000 jobs becomes out-of-date as the labor force expands each year by almost 1,000,000 workers. Obviously, attaining this expansion is not an easy job. All parts of our economy, business, agriculture, labor and government must work together towards this objective.

In working out a specific program for achieving a high-employment economy, not enough attention has been given to the problem of consumer income.

If the income of consumers in this country can be maintained at a high level, this will go a long way towards assuring a high level of employment. If businessmen are sure of a market for their products, they will be more interested in expanding their business to provide more jobs. In our opinion, the emphasis in developing a high-employment economy must be placed on maintaining a high level of consumer purchasing power.

Even though the present level of unemployment does not represent a "crisis" or "emergency," it definitely does call for certain specific action. We must make certain that the needs of the unemployed and their families are being met and that steps are taken so that our economy can function at its maximum effectiveness. The following measures are recommended:

1. The system of unemployment compensation must be thoroughly revised to provide greater income for longer periods of time for those who find themselves without a job.

2. To increase consumer income, unions must continually strive for higher wages. The increased purchasing power which will result from a high level of wages will broaden the market for all types of goods and services as well as stimulating increased efficiency in business.

At the same time, the benefits of unionism and higher wage levels must be extended to all of the working population. This underlines the importance of the drive the AFL is now carrying out to enroll one million new members during 1950.

3. Every effort must be made to prevent any substantial increase in consumer prices. For example, as long as the housing shortage exists, Federal rent control will be needed to prevent exorbitant increases in rents. Business must recognize the necessity for continually lowering prices, or face hostile reaction from the rest of the community.

4. Local community full employment committees can be helpful in highlighting the problems of a particular locality and in taking certain specific measures to increase employment. However, because many of the forces causing unemployment are beyond the reach of these local committees, their operations must be carefully handled in order to avoid duplication and wasted efforts.

5. The various government programs affecting our economic life must be revised to make them more useful in attaining a high employment economy. For example, the existing law providing for the advance planning of public works is seriously inadequate. Other areas which need careful review are taxation, anti-trust program, agricultural policies, and resource development.

AGAINST CUT

Washington.—The Senate Postoffice Committee voted 9 to 0 to direct Postmaster General Jesse Donaldson to cancel the cuts in mail service he ordered on April 18.

The action was the first step toward realization of the AFL program to prevent Mr. Donaldson from wrecking the postal delivery system by throwing thousands of workers into idleness.

The AFL is opposing the socalled "economy" move.

Pity The Poor Boss!

Reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission show that United States Steel Corp. paid its three top officers a total of $538,400 salaries in 1949.

President Benjamin Fairless received $211,000 salary; Board Chairman Irving S. Olds $164,200, and Chairman Enders M. Voorhees of the finance committee $163,200.

Curtis' Publishing Co. paid Board Chairman W. D. Fuller $101,983 and Ben Hibbs, editor of the labor-hating Saturday Evening Post, $101,923.

AFL Censures Tito But Favors Aid

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council welcomed Marshall Tito's rebellion against the Russian Cominform but condemned Tito's own despotic autocratic rule which denies the Jugo-Slav people civil liberties and freedom.

Following is the text of the "Declaration on Tito:"

In recent years there has been a marked slackening of imperialist policies and practices by the western democracies. We note with satisfaction the progress towards the advancement of human liberty and national independence in the establishment of the Republics of India and Indonesia, the emergence of the Filipino nation, and the attainment of complete national sovereignty by the people of Burma and Thailand.

While this progressive anti-imperialist course was developing in the ranks of the democracies, the very opposite trend was developing at a furious pace in Russian foreign policy.

Today Russia is pursuing a ruthless imperialist policy and is everywhere seeking to seize and absorb the small nations, to destroy their national independence, and force them into the Soviet system of satellites and slave states.

The menace of Russian imperialism has become so acute that there has developed open resistance to it even in the camp of international Communist totalitarianism itself. Thus, the Jugo-Slav regime, headed by the Communist dictator Tito, rebelled two years ago against Moscow's Cominform. This rebellion in the ranks of the Soviet satellites represents a serious danger to Russian imperialist hegemony and should be welcomed and encouraged by all freedom loving people.

While welcoming Tito's resistance and struggle against Russia's attempts to destroy the independence of Jugoslavia, we do not in the least endorse or approve his despotic domestic regime. The people of Jugoslavia, since Tito's break with Moscow as well as before, have been subjected to and continue to be victims of a ruthless socalled proletarian dictatorship under which they are denied all democratic rights.

Under the Tito regime, the workers of Jugoslavia are denied every right to free trade union organization and all freedom of conscience and other basic democratic liberties. While we grant economic and other material aid to thwart Russia's attempts to destroy the national independence of Jugoslavia, we must not hesitate to condemn the systematic annihilation of genuine democratic forces, the brutal denial of religious liberty and savage persecution of churchmen, and the suppression of human rights by the present Belgrade dictatorship.

The American Federation of Labor pledges itself to do everything in its power not only to help the Jugoslav people maintain their national independence but also expresses its fervent hope that the day is not far off when they will succeed in establishing in their country a truly democratic republic under which they will be able to enjoy full blessings of democracy, the rights of free trade unionism, religious liberty and lasting peace.

$2 Political Drive Set for June-July; 10-Cent Fund Voted

Philadelphia.—The AFL Executive Council voted to ask each international union to contribute 10 cents per member immediately to the education fund of Labor's League for Political Education.

The league's administrative committee, which includes the 15 council members, fixed June and July for an intensive effort to raise $2 per member for the political campaign fund to help elect a liberal Congress in November.

Three international unions responded immediately to the appeal for voluntary contributions equal to 10 cents per member for the education fund. They were the Brotherhood of Boilermakers; United Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers; and the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers.

More than 90 percent of the international unions responded to the first 10 cents per member contribution appeal made at the 1948 convention in Cincinnati. It is expected that this mark will be surpassed because of the crucial importance of this year's elections.

The plans for financing the AFL's political activity this year was one of many important issues acted upon by the council as it worked toward adjournment of its spring session held here in connection with the AFL Union Industries Show. Other decisions included:

1. Endorsement of President Truman's Reorganization Plan 12 to abolish the office of General Counsel Robert N. Denham of the National Labor Relations Board and transfer his duties to the board.

2. Creation of a committee to make a scientific study of pension plans being negotiated by AFL unions and employers, the results to be incorporated in a report for distribution as advice and information.

3. Adoption of policy statements on Germany, Asia and Tito.

TO THE AFL ADD "A," SAYS HOPE

Philadelphia. — Bob Hope's sign-off line, that little punch-tag which closed his program from the AFL Union Industries Show, was this:

"AFL: add an 'A' to that and you have—
America
First
Last and
Always."

Green, McDevitt Sound Rally Cry For T-H Repeal

Philadelphia.—AFL President William Green and President James L. McDevitt of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor called for a stepped up drive to repeal the Taft-Hartley law in speeches before the 48th annual Pennsylvania convention.

Mr. Green urged the reelection of Sen. Francis J. Myers to help assure success of the drive to repeal the Taft-Hartley law in the new Congress. The repeal effort failed in the last Congress by a few votes. Repeal remains the AFL's No. 1 legislative objective.

"It doesn't matter to which party a candidate belongs," Mr. Green said. "If he voted for the Taft-Hartley law he is our enemy and he will not go back if we can prevent it.

"Labor resents having the Taft-Hartley chain fastened on it and will never be satisfied until that law is repealed."

Mr. McDevitt made Taft-Hartley repeal the first item in his annual report.

"The infamous Taft-Hartley Act is a law designed to cripple if not destroy free collective bargaining here in these United States," he said. He called for a stepped up drive for its repeal.

"We will continue to wage a most vigorous campaign to reach our ultimate goal," he said.

Mr. McDevitt warned delegates representing 700,000 members of serious trends in Pennsylvania state government which are whittling down unemployment compensation benefits, permitting the growth of "the creeping paralysis of the injunctive power of the court over peaceful activities by unions;" and defeat of progressive legislation supported by labor and liberal groups.

He called for full support of the Samuel Gompers Memorial Organizing Drive aimed at getting 1,000,000 news members this year as a tribute to the founder and first president of the AFL born 100 years ago.

STATION CHANGES

Washington.—With the start of the baseball season, night games have caused a rescheduling of the newscasts of Frank Edwards, AFL commentator, in some cities.

The following is a list of cities and stations which have agreed to carry the Edwards program immediately after their games:

WCPO, Cincinnati, O.; KBON, Omaha, Neb.; KTOP, Topeka, Kans.; WJSW; Altoona, Pa.; WAMS, Wilmington, Del.; KIOA, Des Moines, Ia.; WLEE, Richmond, Va.; WATO, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; WKGN, Knoxville, Tenn. (will be heard on a 5-night week basis during the baseball season); WUSN, Charleston, S. C. (5-night a week basis during baseball season); KTHT, Houston, Tex. (will play back at 11 p.m. 5-nite a week basis during baseball season); WONE, Dayton, O.

Hope Broadcast Marks Show's Union-Employer Cooperation

Philadelphia.—Breezy wisecracking Bob Hope gave the world one of the finest demonstrations of labor-management cooperation to be shown at the 5th AFL Union Industries Show.

Through excellent relations between the AFL Chemical Workers, headed by H. A. Bradley, and Lever Brothers Co., sponsors of the radio program, Funnyman Hope and his star-studded cast made two personal appearances before 30,000 people in the huge Convention Hall auditorium.

His broadcast was heard across the country and abroad by millions of other listeners. His show was dedicated to the American Federation of Labor. Hope belongs to AFL unions and was made an honorary member of the AFL.

Mr. Bradley hailed Hope's appearance as a dramatic demonstration of union-management cooperation which was the theme of the huge Union Industries Show in all of its 700 booths lined for 1½ miles up and down the big hall.

Every union affiliated with the AFL was represented through its own booth, in a booth jointly sponsored with individual companies, through products displayed by management, or the big, attractive American Federation of Labor booth.

A gay carnival atmosphere hung over the fair. Tremendous supplies of hot dogs, ice cream and soft drinks were consumed.

Most visitors lugged green shopping bags handed out free by the Retail Clerks International Association. The bags filled quickly with dozens of free samples, prizes and literature handed out at other booths.

These included popular brands of cigarettes, matchbooks, coasters, coffee, soda pop, pretzels, frankfurters, models of the Statue of Liberty and red firemen's hats. Contestants won prizes ranging from several tons of fresh cuts of steak and fresh-baked cake to washing machines, stoves, automobiles and television sets.

Visitors could also watch puppet shows, listen to name bands, see pocket billiard exhibitions by world champions.

At many of the 700 display booths the visitor saw an actual demonstration of the know-how of the American working man and woman.

Six young women from Chicago, who are as adept with a soldering iron as with a lipstick, assembled television sets from bare chassis to cabinet. They were members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers employed by the Admiral Corp.

There were bricklaying contests between apprentices, who won the trip to Philadelphia at state contests across the nation. The bricklayers union sponsored the project with the Structural Clay Products Institute, a national organization of brick and tile manufacturers.

The Bakery and Confectionery Workers showed just how they make Danish pastry. The Meatcutters and Butchers converted two prize steers daily into choice cuts.

Lathers, plasterers and their contractors combined to present the fine points of their craft. They also gave a hand-made replica of the Statue of Liberty to French Consul Raoul Blondeau.

A tiny movie theater was run by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Machine Operators.

The National Brotherhood of Operative Potters, in cooperation with the United States Potters' Association, showed the methods—old and modern—of making dishes, cups, saucers and even cuspidors.

Upholsterers built furniture. Teamsters offered driving lessons. Seven girls from the Laundry Workers Union ironed shirts on shiny new pressing machines.

The intricacies of sorting the United States mail were explained by postal employes at a special substation where Samuel Gompers commemorative 3-cent stamps were sold.

One section of the show was devoted to the armed services.

The Philadelphia Naval Shipyard's electronics office offered visitors a chance to operate a radio-controlled vehicle. In this case, it was a 4-foot long racing car. The push-button remote controls even have one marked "horn."